



NEWS RELEASE

"For Immediate Release"

January 28, 2020

DOGS SEIZED FROM BREEDER/SUSPECTED PUPPY MILL

BROAD RUN – Fauquier County Animal Control deputies executed a search warrant at a suspected puppy mill on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. The location, in the 6200 block of Beverly's Mill Road, in the Broad Run area, became the subject of an animal cruelty investigation earlier this month.

In late January, Animal Control deputies were contacted by authorities with Baltimore County Maryland Animal Control regarding a deceased dog reported to be owned by Irina Barrett. This dog was allegedly left unclaimed at a veterinary clinic in Maryland. It was further alleged the dog showed signs of prolonged neglect.

The deceased dog was transferred to the Fauquier Health Department Agriculture Laboratory for necropsy. Animal Control deputies sought a search warrant for evidence of long-term cruelty and neglect possibly contributing to death. Preliminary results determined the dog did not receive adequate care and endured extreme suffering.

On January 28, deputies obtained and executed a search warrant on property in the 6200 block of Beverly's Mill Road belonging to Irina Barrett. As a result of the search warrant, over 70 dogs, mostly Doberman Pinchers and French Bull Dogs, were seized from this location, as well as over 50 poultry and other companion animals. The dogs were found to be in inadequate conditions and suffering from neglect, without access to food and water. The dogs were seized and taken to a local center for care and shelter. In addition several deceased animals, both dogs and poultry, were located on the property.

Deputies have charged Irina Barrett, 41, of Broad Run, with felony cruelty to animals resulting in death and misdemeanor neglect of companion animals.

Barrett was held on a \$2500.00 secured bond at the time of her arrest yesterday afternoon. Future charges are anticipated as the investigation continues.

Fauquier County Sheriff's Office Animal Control received assistance from the Stafford County Sheriff's Office, Fauquier County Commonwealth's Attorney, Fauquier County SPCA and the Virginia Attorney General's Office Animal Law Unit.



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